

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method of forming a plurality of pre-greased collecting rods for a rotorod sampler, the method comprising:
 - (a) forming a group in which collecting rods and a header are formed as one piece;
 - (b) dipping the group into a pre-greasing medium to apply a coating of grease to all of the collecting rod simultaneously, thereby forming the pre-greased collecting rods;
and
 - (c) packaging the group with the pre-greased collecting rods in a container;
wherein step (a) comprises molding the group.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein step (a) comprises injection molding the group.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 4,~~ A method of forming a plurality of pre-greased collecting rods for a rotorod sampler, the method comprising:
 - (a) forming a group in which collecting rods and a header are formed as one piece;
 - (b) dipping the group into a pre-greasing medium to apply a coating of grease to all of the collecting rod simultaneously, thereby forming the pre-greased collecting rods;
and
 - (c) packaging the group with the pre-greased collecting rods in a container;

wherein step (b) comprises:

(i) assembling a plurality of the groups into an assembly; and

(ii) dipping the assembly into the pre-greasing medium to apply the coating to all of the collecting rods in the assembly simultaneously; and

further comprising, between steps (b)(i) and (b) (ii), adhering the assembly to a first component of the container.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein step (c) comprises attaching a second component of the container to the first component of the container to form the container.

7. (Original) ~~The method of claim 4,~~ A method of forming a plurality of pre-greased collecting rods for a rotorod sampler, the method comprising:

(a) forming a group in which collecting rods and a header are formed as one piece;

(b) dipping the group into a pre-greasing medium to apply a coating of grease to all of the collecting rod simultaneously, thereby forming the pre-greased collecting rods; and

(c) packaging the group with the pre-greased collecting rods in a container;

wherein step (b) comprises:

(i) assembling a plurality of the groups into an assembly; and

(ii) dipping the assembly into the pre-greasing medium to apply the coating to all of the collecting rods in the assembly simultaneously;

wherein step (a) comprises forming the headers with pins and sockets, and
wherein step (b)(i) comprises mating the pins with the sockets to assemble the groups
into the assembly.

8-19. (Canceled)